

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claim 1 and ADD new claim 7 in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A fusing device for an electrophotographic image forming apparatus, the device comprising:

- a fusing roller with an outer rubber roller;
- a heating pipe disposed in the center of the fusing roller, ~~wherein both ends of the heating pipe are sealed;~~
- ~~a predetermined amount of a working fluid inside the heating pipe;~~
- a heating element disposed on the outer surface of the heating pipe; and
- a pressing roller which closely adheres paper passing between the pressing roller and the fusing roller to the fusing roller.

2. (ORIGINAL) The device of claim 1, wherein the rubber roller is of a predetermined thickness so as to form a fusing nip with the pressing roller, wherein the fusing nip is of a predetermined width.

3. ((ORIGINAL) The device of claim 2, wherein the rubber roller is formed of silicon.

4. ((ORIGINAL) The device of claim 2, wherein the thickness of the rubber roller is 1-3 mm.

5. (ORIGINAL) The device of claim 2, wherein the outer diameter of the fusing roller is 35-50 mm.

6. (ORIGINAL) The device of claim 1, wherein the rubber roller and the heater are adhered together using a heat-resistant adhesive coated between the rubber roller and the heater.

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7. (NEW) The device of claim 1, wherein both ends of the heating pipe are sealed, and a predetermined amount of a working fluid is contained inside the heating pipe.